

REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given by the applicants to the Examiner's comments and rejection of the claims as set forth in the outstanding Office Action, and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, as amended is earnestly solicited.

Applicants note the Examiner's rejection of the claims under either 35 U.S.C. §102(b) or 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being either anticipated by Colgan, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,831,710A (with regard to Claim 7) or unpatentable also in view of applicants' Information Disclosure Statement, further in view of Haven, European Document No. EPO113064A1, as extensively detailed in the Office Action.

However, although Colgan, et al. is pertinent with respect to various of the aspects of the present invention, Colgan, et al. being commonly assigned to the present assignee, the application and inventive concept was derived as an improvement over the cited Colgan, et al. U.S. patent.

In particular, Colgan, et al., as previously indicated, does not disclose the novel column-like structure for maintaining the spacing or gap between the first and second substrates in a constant mode, and wherein the shape of the wall-like structure is determined based on the state of the column-like structure.

That particular aspect is disclosed neither in Colgan, et al. nor in the secondary references referred to in the Information Disclosure Statement, such as EPO 113064 A1, as also cited by the Examiner.

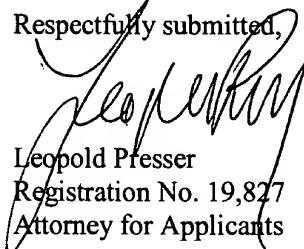
Accordingly, in addition to the previously submitted arguments and amendments, applicants herewith have also implemented a further limiting structure and method, as applicable to the claims, by including the further limitations of Claim 4 into Claim 1, directed to the specific column-like structure for maintaining the gap constant between the first and second substrates and with the shape of the wall-like structure being determined based on the state of the column-like structure.

The foregoing amendments were also implemented to Claim 7, which is directed to the further limitation also of providing the fluidized-state of the seal member and wherein the particular aspects of the liquid crystal being permitted to flow into the outside of the wall-like structure when the liquid crystal flows out from the display area, and in which the wall-like structure also prevents air from being entrapped from the condition when the liquid crystal is flowing into the display area.

Furthermore, this particular aspect has also been emphasized in method Claim 10, by incorporating therein the further limitation of Claim 11.

Accordingly, the foregoing structure, to a considerable extent provides for an enhanced improvement in view of that disclosed in Colgan, et al., irrespective as to whether considered singly or in combination with the remaining publication. This is also applicable to the method of providing the liquid crystal display device with the particular seal configuration, as described and claimed herein.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, which are deemed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action, the early and favorable reconsideration of the application and issuance of the Notice of Allowance by the Examiner is earnestly solicited. However, in the event that the Examiner has any queries concerning the instantly submitted Amendment, applicants' attorney respectfully requests that he be accorded the courtesy of possibly a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

Respectfully submitted,

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